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Allgemeine und Spezielle Wirtschaftsgeographie. By Dr. Ernst Friedrich. 370 pp., 3 Maps and Index. G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung, Leipzig, 1904. (Price, M. 6.80.)

Dr. Friedrich has recently attracted much attention as a writer on economic geography. It is doubtful if any other writer on the subject has made so enormous a collection of facts as he has done to illustrate this department of geography; and his systematic classification of this material has enabled him to use it very effectively in his writings. The present work is neither a textbook nor a handbook, though it may be read with great profit by advanced students; and the vast array of facts minutely indexed gives the work, in many respects, the quality and usefulness of a handbook.

But the serious purpose of Dr. Friedrich is to show that the method of treating economic geography which he has brought to the front is essential to the most effective study of it. He desires to emphasize man as the great factor in economic geography, and he gives the secondary place to natural conditions. He asserts that S. Günther and other German writers are wrong because they begin their consideration of economic geography with the natural environment and conditions instead of with man and his various forms of industry.

Dr. Friedrich and the other writers, however, do not seem to be very far apart, and both effectively present the subject. So important are environment and other natural conditions in determining the nature and quantity of industrial products that it is not strange if most writers on economic geography make the inter-relations between man and the natural conditions around him very prominent. Their treatment of the subject justifies the use of the term "economic geography," while Dr. Friedrich's method seems to relegate the topic to some branch of economics.

In the development of his method Dr. Friedrich shows man and his industrial activity in process of evolution—first, the stage of animal economy (*tierische Wirtschaft*), in which man, like the lower animals, satisfies his wants merely by collecting the articles needed for his food, clothing, and shelter. In the second stage of instinctive economy man is aided by his instinct in collecting the necessities of life, he has invented more implements to help him than he possessed in the first stage of struggle and progress is made in agriculture and stock-raising. In the third stage he has the advantage of traditions handed down orally, or even reduced to writing, so that in this era of traditional economy he may benefit by the experience of his fathers. The fourth stage is that of scientific economy, when various peoples have obtained an insight, more or less profound, into the relations between man and nature, and have learned in a high degree to utilize natural forces for man's benefit.

Nearly one-fourth of the book is devoted to the development of these ideas, and the remainder, exclusive of the index, is given to the special consideration of the various countries, an enormous number of facts being cited. Their application to the basal features of the study, as propounded by the author, must be made by the reader, as most of the facts are stated baldly, with no attempt to show their relationships. One of the three maps shows the areas now occupied by man in each of the four stages of economic culture; another shows the distribution of the forms of industry from collections of vegetable products, such as rubber, through fisheries, hunting, planting, stock-raising, and mining to manufactures, transportations, and trade. The third map shows the economic zones as determined by climate. The author has certainly enriched the study of economic geography on the human side, and for this and the wealth of illustrative and accurate fact which he has collected his writings cannot be overlooked in any satisfactory study of this subject.